

DEC 24 2003

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J. Douglas  
PTO/SB/31 08/00  
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**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/357,220
Filing Date	July 20, 1999
First Named Inventor	Yoshikazu Oochi
Group Art Unit	2615
Examiner Name	Nhan T. Tran
Attorney Docket Number	450100-4991

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

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DEC 31 2003

Technology Center 2600

## 1. Submission required under C.F.R. § 1.114.

- a. ☒ Previously submitted
- i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on November 10, 2003. (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☐ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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## 2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103© for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(I) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

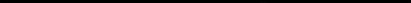
- a. ☒ Checks in the amounts of \$770.00 and \$420.00 are enclosed for the following:
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17)
- iii. ☒ This is a Petition for a 2-month extension of time. A check for \$420.00 is enclosed.
- b. ☒ The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	William S. Frommer	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	25,506
Signature	<i>William S. Frommer</i>	Date	December 22, 2003

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United State Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	Barnet Shindlman		
Signature		Date	December 22, 2003

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